

AMENDED IN SENATE SEPTEMBER 6, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005–06 REGULAR SESSION

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 30**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Liu**

(Principal coauthor: Senator Speier)

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Berg, Cohn, Evans, Goldberg,  
Hancock, Karnette, Lieber, Matthews, Montanez, Negrete  
McLeod, Oropeza, Pavley, Saldana, and Wolk)**

(Coauthors: Senators Bowen, Ducheny, Escutia, Figueroa, Kehoe,  
Kuehl, Migden, Ortiz, and Romero)

August 15, 2005

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Assembly Joint Resolution No. 30—Relative to Women’s Equality Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 30, as amended, Liu. Women’s Equality Day.

This measure would memorialize the Congress and the President of the United States to uphold protections of women’s equality and to encourage all Americans to participate in the celebration of Women’s Equality Day on August 26, 2005, the 85th anniversary of the *passage of the* Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which gave women the right to vote.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, August 26, 2005, marks the 85th anniversary of  
2 passage of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States  
3 Constitution and is Women’s Equality Day, a day deserving of  
4 celebration and special public commendation; and

5 WHEREAS, Elizabeth Cady Stanton~~—and~~, Lucretia Mott,  
6 *Martha C. Wright, Mary Ann McClintock, and Jane Hunt*

1 organized the first Women’s Rights Convention in 1848 in  
2 Seneca Falls, New York, where 100 women and men from all  
3 walks of life ~~declared~~ *affixed their signatures to the Declaration*  
4 *of Sentiments, which proclaimed* that “all men and women are  
5 created equal” and ~~called for universal women’s suffrage; are~~  
6 *“endowed with certain inalienable rights” (including elective*  
7 *franchise) and*

8 WHEREAS, Several generations of suffragists fought for the  
9 right for women to vote and few early participants in this massive  
10 civil rights movement lived to see the victory in 1920.

11 WHEREAS, On August 26, 1920, after a 72-year struggle, the  
12 Nineteenth Amendment was added to the United States  
13 Constitution, securing a woman’s right to vote; and

14 WHEREAS, In 1971, the United States Congress designated  
15 August 26 as Women’s Equality Day to commemorate the  
16 ~~passage~~ *ratification* of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United  
17 States Constitution and as a reminder of the need for continuing  
18 efforts for women to achieve full equality; and

19 WHEREAS, Since 1920, women have made tremendous gains  
20 in society, including the right to vote, the right to be free from  
21 discrimination in employment, and the right to equal access to  
22 education, including sports; and

23 WHEREAS, Despite these gains, women still need to make  
24 great strides in order to achieve civic, economic and social  
25 equality; and

26 WHEREAS, Women still earn only 76 cents to every dollar  
27 earned by a man, women disproportionately live in poverty,  
28 women are more likely to be victims of domestic violence than  
29 men, ~~and~~ female athletes have fewer participation opportunities  
30 ~~and far fewer dollars than male athletes, and far fewer dollars are~~  
31 spent on women’s athletics than on men’s athletics programs;  
32 and

33 WHEREAS, On August 26, 2005, Women’s Equality Day and  
34 the anniversary of the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment, the  
35 women and men who have worked tirelessly to secure equality  
36 for women are to be commended for what they have achieved  
37 thus far and supported in their continued efforts to champion the  
38 rights of women; now, therefore, be it

39 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
40 *California, jointly, That the Legislature of the State of California*

1 memorializes the United States Congress and the President of the  
2 United States to do all of the following:

3 (1) Dedicate themselves to upholding the current legal  
4 protections of equality for women.

5 (2) Continue to pioneer new protections of equality for women  
6 until women achieve parity with men.

7 (3) Encourage all Americans to participate in the national  
8 celebration of Women’s Equality Day in recognition of the 85th  
9 anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States  
10 Constitution and its historic importance in promoting women’s  
11 rights; and be it further

12 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit  
13 copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and  
14 to all Members of the United States Congress.

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